



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **MLCC Begins Changes to Licensing Process with Reforms to Non-Profit Special License Application**

*Commission to provide more certainty by creating a more concise and clearer non-profit 24 hour license*

**(September 14, 2011)** In one of the first of many upcoming efforts to simplify the licensing process, The Michigan Liquor Control Commission (MLCC) announced today changes to the “special license” application. A special license often referred to as a “24 hour license,” is a one-day license for non-profit organizations holding a special event. The overall goal was the need to provide certainty and clearer instructions to non-profit organizations applying for a liquor license.

“We want all non-profit organizations and their events to be a success. These organizations benefit and rely on these events to raise money to fulfill their charitable missions,” said Andy Deloney, Chairman of the MLCC. “One of the biggest changes to the revised application is a checklist. The checklist is intended to assist the applicant and ensure that all necessary documentation and fees are included when it is submitted so we as the commission can consider the application for approval in a timely manner.”

Deloney stated that this change is the just the beginning of many more expected changes to the process of applying for, and being considered for, liquor licenses. “We are working toward improving the overall process with the goal of giving applicants more certainty about what is required to become licensed, shortening the timeline for application and approval, and more predictability on how long the process will take.”

Along with the revisions, the Commission hopes to draw attention to [Commission Rule 436.575](#), stating that ‘an applicant shall ensure that its application for a special license is received in the offices of the Michigan Liquor Control Commission, Lansing, Michigan, not less than 10 days before the date the license is desired.’ Failing to do so could jeopardize the ability to approve the applications, according to Deloney.

“The MLCC staff works hard, but even they cannot process hundreds of applications for special one-day licenses at the very last minute,” said Deloney. “In order to help us make your event a success, we need your application at least 10 days before your event is scheduled.”

The MLCC has issued 5,089 Special 24 hour licenses from January 1, 2011 through August 31, 2011.

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